12.44 hrs.

DESTRUCTIVE INSECTS AND PESTS (AMENDMENT AND VALIDATION) ORDINANCE, 1992

Explanatory Statement Giving Reasons for Immediate Legislation by Ordinance

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): I beg to lay on the Table an explanatory statement (Hindi and English versions) giving reasons for immediate legislation by the Destructive Insects and Pests (Amendment and Validation) Ordinance, 1992. [Placed in Library *See* No. LT–1395/92]

12.45 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(I) Need for early functioning of proposed Subsidiary Coal Company with its headquarters at Sambalpur, Orissa.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (DEOGARH): Sir, the decision of the Government of India to open a separate subsidiary coal company under the Coal India Limited in Orissa is welcome. The same should start functioning from the beginning of the next financial year, *i.e.* 1.4.1992 with its headquarters at Sambalpur and at the same time, there should also be a division opened at Talcher simultaneously.

(II) Need to ensure adequate supply of coal to Karnataka

SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI (Bellary): The Government of Karnataka on 2.1.1992 had drawn the attention of the Union Coal Minister that Karnataka had a number of cement and paper plants and shortage in supply of coal had affected the production and performance of these two key industries. The Government of Karnataka also urged the Union Minister for augmenting the supply of coal to the industrial sector in the State and also requested to expedite establishment of coal dumps in important locations in Northern Karnataka region such as Bidar, Bijapur, Gulbarga by Coal India Ltd., so that buffer stocks could be built up at these locations.

I urge upon the Central Government to kindly expedite the matter and provide sufficient coal to Karnataka to save the industries there.

(III) Need to set up Dholpur Thermal Power Plant of Maroli, Bicchia Road, Dholpur

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE (Jhalawar): I would like to draw the attention of the Central Government to the urgent need for the establishment of a thermal power plant at Dholpur in Rajasthan. The proposal to set up a thermal power plant at Dholpur was submitted by the State Government of Rajasthan to the Central Electricity Authority way back in 1984. The project report envisaged an initial installed capacity of 2 x 210 M.W. and ultimate capacity of 5 x 210 M.W. The delay in the establishment of the plant has escalated the cost which has now gone up nearly four times from the original estimate of Rs. 574 crores to over Rs. 2000 crores.

The project remained pending with the Ministry of Environment and Forest for more than seven years and he Rajasthan Government was asked to look for an alternative sight. When the two Secretaries of Power and Environment at the Centre have agreed on a site in 1991, there is no reason why the Central Government should insist on an alternative site. The present sight is the most suitable as all the essential pre-requisites